



“A State of Mind”

Dan Wood
Councilmember, Town of Bluffton

Dan Wood was elected to Bluffton’s Town Council in 2015 and began his term in January 2016 after decades of civic involvement. Before running for public office, Wood led a service organization, created a town-wide festival and worked in his spare time to protect and promote Bluffton’s arts, culture and historical assets.

Wood’s cornerstone of civic activity is the Rotary Club of Bluffton. It is where he served as president (2005-2006), served on the board of directors for several years and created a community-wide signature event, the Historic Bluffton Arts and Seafood Festival. Wood said he created this event with the help of the Rotary Club and Larry and Tina Toomer to showcase Bluffton’s history, coastal culture and arts community. The festival began in 2005 and has grown into a two-week celebration attracting tens of thousands of people to Bluffton and the Lowcountry region. The festival has been mentioned in numerous magazines such as *Southern Living* and *National Geographic* as an event which honors Bluffton’s unique culture as one of the last true coastal villages of the South.

Wood has also contributed to Bluffton as a member of the Town’s Planning Commission (2005- 2008) and the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee (2013-2015). He is also a member of the Bluffton Historical Preservation Society.

Wood retired in March of 2015 from Palmetto Electric Cooperative after serving the greater community for nearly 30 years. During his three decades with the utility industry, Wood acquired extensive knowledge in the field of urban and infrastructure planning. Among the many projects he led, Wood created the New River District for Palmetto Electric which established the utility infrastructure for communities such as Del Webb. During the height of Wood’s career, he worked as the Palmetto Electric’s Operations Manager, responsible for more than 60,000 customers. In addition, Wood was instrumental in a multi-year, \$35 million program to bury all overhead distribution lines within the town limits of Hilton Head Island.

Wood received an associate’s degree in electronics from the Technical College of the Lowcountry.

Wood moved to the area in 1979 and resides in the Bluffton Historic District with his wife, Debbie.

Wood has four children and four grandchildren.